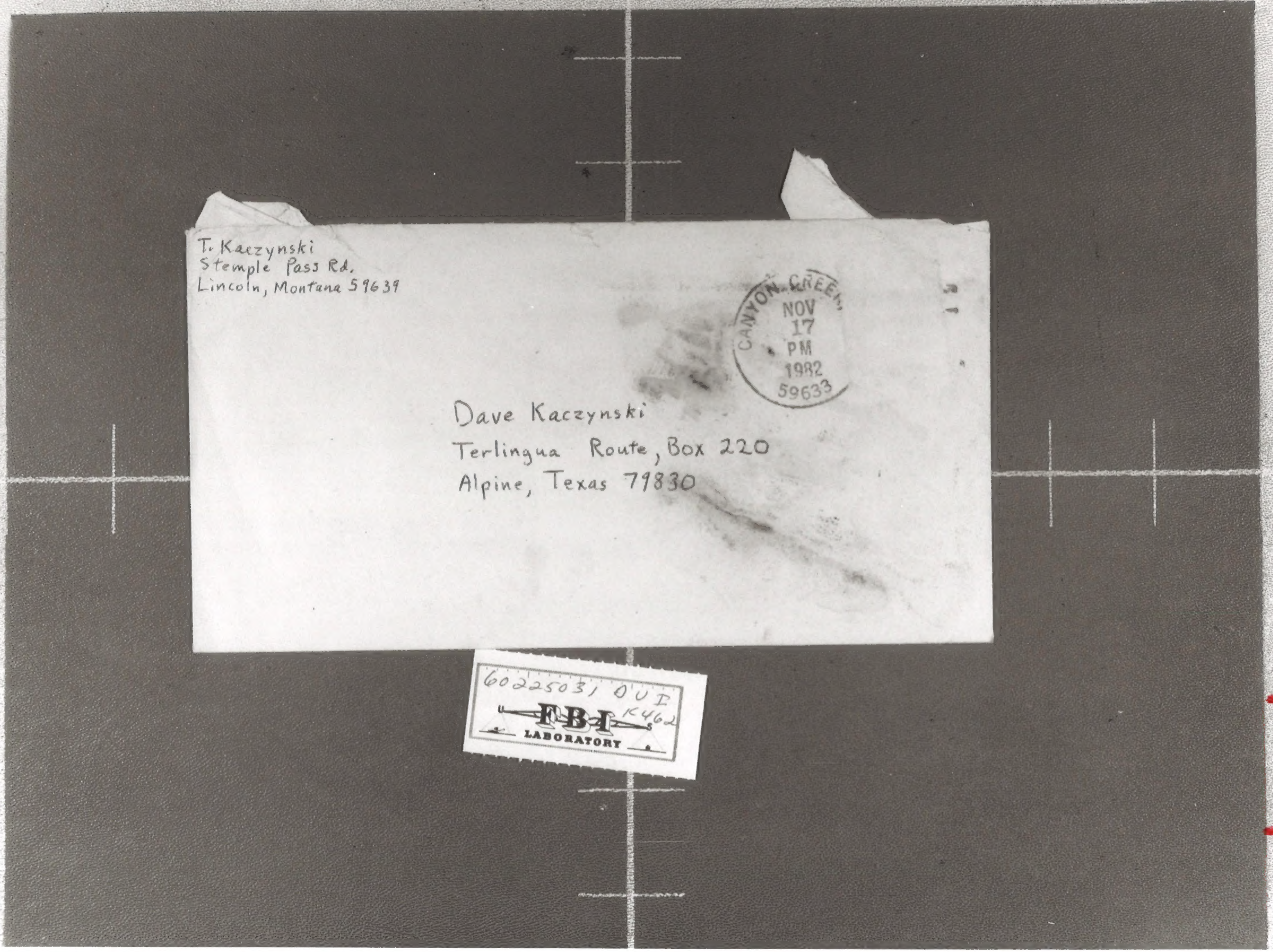
T. Kaczynski
Stemple Pass Rd.
Lincoln, Montana 59639
CANYON CREEK
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Dave Kaczynski
Terlingua Route, Box 220
Alpine, Texas 79830
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T-9

Dear Dave:

1. Parents sent me a couple of photos of your property. It looks beautiful! You once invited me to visit there, and, though I hate to squander money on bus fare, I may come to see your place some time, anyway.

2. As for your blood pressure, I wouldn't worry too much about that one reading because: (a) you said it was near, but not over, the high-blood-pressure level. (b) If I'm not mistaken, a slightly elevated blood pressure (say 155/95) significantly increases risk of heart attack and stroke but is not an immediate, serious danger. And mainly, (c) Blood pressure varies considerably according to circumstances, such as stress, fatigue, physical activity, whether you've eaten heavily, etc. For instance, they ~~sh~~ say you should rest quietly for at least 15 minutes before taking your blood pressure. Since you took it in a bank you probably didn't do that.

I'm not trying to minimize the risks of high blood pressure. They say that seriously elevated blood pressure is highly dangerous. And it wouldn't be a bad idea to get your blood pressure some time under more propitious conditions. But at present I don't think you have any particular reason to worry.

By the way, they say the diastolic (lower) reading is the one to worry about; the systolic (upper) reading is less important. Also, since weight affects blood pressure, you could perhaps take a few points off your blood pressure, if you had reason to do so, by getting rid of some pounds of fat that you were carrying last time I saw you.

3. I learned recently that exposure to ultraviolet radiation, as from sunlight, has a cumulative effect in creating a risk of skin cancer; the risk ~~bui~~ builds up over years of exposure. Moreover, the ultraviolet in ~~su~~ sunlight is currently increasing due to the partial destruction of the ozone layer in the atmosphere, which is caused by the release of fluorocarbons in various technological activities, including but not restricted to use of these gasses in aerosol cans. Some figures I have seen, if my memory is not in error: ultraviolet in sunlight already elevated by some 15%; expected to go up to 35% over next few decades, estimated on basis of 1975 levels of fluorocarbon release; percentage to be higher of course in case of increasing levels of release. 35% increase in UV radiation to result in 70% increase in

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skin cancer rate in white people. So — you might consider getting yourself a hat with a good wide brim to wear in that sunny desert. Now, don't you wish you were a nigger?? I mean a real black one. ~~Apparently~~ Apparently all that black stuff keeps out most of the ultraviolet.

4. I don't know of any translations of Quiroga's works except one short story "El Techo" (the Roof) which appears in Spanish Stories (a dual-language book with both the Spanish and the English versions), edited by Angel Flores, Bantam Books, 271 Madison Avenue, New York, 1960. You could go to a library some time and ask the reference librarian how you ~~would~~ could find out whether any of Quiroga's works have been translated into English. And by the way, if you should happen to find that few of his stories have been translated, please inform me. I am just wondering whether it might not be possible to make a few bucks by offering a collection of translations of his tales to some publisher. Might be worth a try. Maybe. Some time.

— Ted.

P.S. You may find it discouraging at first trying to identify edible wild plants — ~~I know I did~~ — but eventually you get the knack of it and then it comes much easier.

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